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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Lieven Stuyver

Serial No.: 09/720,435

Filed: June 25, 2001

For: METHOD FOR DETECTION OF DRUG-
SELECTED MUTATIONS IN THE HIV
PROTEASE GENE

Confirmation No.: 1489

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Gary Williams.

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11362.0030.PCUS00
(INNS030---)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED OCTOBER 1, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 1, 2002 for which the date for response was November 1, 2002.

A request for a one month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This one-month extension will bring the due date to December 1, 2002, which is within the six-month statutory period. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee of \$110.00 to Deposit Account No. 01-2508/11362.0030.PCUS00 for a one-month extension of time. Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason

relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from
Deposit Account No. 01-2508/11362.0030.PCUS00.

AMENDMENT

Please make the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 10 and 11 without disclaimer and without prejudice to filing one or more divisional applications therefor.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9 and 12 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) Method for determining the susceptibility to antiviral drugs of HIV viruses in a biological sample, with said method comprising:
- if need be, releasing, isolating or concentrating the polynucleic acids present in the sample;
 - if need be amplifying the relevant part of a protease gene of HIV with at least one suitable primer pair;
 - hybridizing the polynucleic acids of step a) or b) with at least two probes specifically hybridizing to a target sequence of the HIV protease gene, said target sequence selected from the group consisting of codon 30; codon 46 and/or 48; codon 50; codon 54; codon 82 and/or 84; codon 90; or the complement of said probe;
wherein said probes specifically hybridize to any of the target sequences presented in figure 1, or Table 3, or to the complement of said target sequences;
wherein said probes are capable of simultaneously hybridizing to their respective targets under appropriate hybridization and wash conditions;
wherein said probes are immobilized on a solid support; and
 - inferring from the result of step c) whether or not a mutation giving rise to drug resistance is present in any of said target sequences.